

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A data storage system having a computer and a data storage apparatus, which has a plurality of storage volumes for storing data to be accessed by said computer, wherein:

    said data storage apparatus comprises:

        a management unit for sending a response to said computer for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

        a storing unit for storing volume management information indicating the correspondent relationship between said virtual drive unit and said storage volume, and

    said computer comprises:

        an interface for receiving said response; and

        a management unit for recognizing said virtual drive unit based on said response, and

        the management unit of said data storage apparatus specifies said storage volume to be accessed based on an access request from said computer to said virtual drive unit, and said volume management information.

2. The data storage system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the management unit of said computer further recognizes said storage volume corresponding to said virtual drive unit as a real non-removable storage volume.

3. The data storage system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the management unit of said data storage apparatus receives a switching request from said computer for switching the correspondent relationship between said virtual drive unit and said storage volume, and, based on said switching request, rewrites said volume management information.

4. The data storage system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the management unit of said computer sends to said management computer the file system type information of said virtual drive unit recognized on the basis of said response.

5. The data storage system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the management unit of said data storage apparatus sends to said management computer the file system type information of said virtual drive unit recognized on the basis of said response.

6. The data storage system according to Claim 1, wherein:

the storing unit of said data storage apparatus further stores, as said volume management information, replication information for replicating information stored in a first storage volume of said storage volumes, in a second storage volume, and

the management unit of said data storage apparatus replicates the information stored in the first storage volume of said storage volumes, in the second storage volume on the basis of said replication information, and when a request is issued from said computer for retrieving said first storage volume from a virtual drive unit, said management unit treats said second storage volume as a replicated storage volume at the time at which said first storage volume split from the virtual drive unit, by terminating replication of information stored in said first storage volume to said second storage volume.

7. A data storage apparatus having a plurality of storage volumes for storing data to be accessed by a computer, comprising:

a management unit for sending a response to said computer for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

a storing unit for storing volume management information indicating the correspondent relationship between said virtual drive unit and said storage volume, wherein:

    said management unit specifies said storage volume to be accessed based on an access request from said computer to said virtual drive unit, and said volume management information.

8. A computer for accessing data stored in a plurality of storage volumes in a data storage apparatus, comprising:

    an interface for receiving a response from said data storage apparatus for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

    a management unit for recognizing said virtual drive unit based on said response.

9. A connecting apparatus for managing the correspondent relationship between a computer and a data storage apparatus having a plurality of storage volumes for storing data to be accessed by said computer, comprising:

    a management unit for generating a response to said computer for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable

of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

a storing unit for storing volume management information indicating the correspondent relationships between said virtual drive unit and said storage volumes, wherein:

said management unit specifies said storage volume to be accessed based on an access request from said computer to said virtual drive unit, and said volume management information.

10. A program for managing access to data stored in a plurality of storage volumes in a data storage apparatus, said program causing a computer to execute:

function for receiving a response from said data storage apparatus for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

function for recognizing, on the basis of said response, a virtual drive unit to which said storage volume that is non-removable is connected as a removable storage medium.

11. A program for managing access to data stored in a plurality of storage volumes in a data storage apparatus, said program causing a computer to execute:

function for generating a response to said computer for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium;

function for storing volume management information indicating the correspondent relationship between said virtual drive unit and said storage volume; and

function for specifying said storage volume to be accessed based on an access request from said computer to said virtual drive unit, and said volume management information.

12. A method for managing access to data stored in a plurality of storage volumes in a data storage apparatus, comprising the steps of:

receiving a response from said data storage apparatus for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium; and

recognizing, on the basis of said response, a virtual drive unit to which said storage volume that is non-removable is connected as a removable storage medium.

13. A method for managing access to data stored in a plurality of storage volumes in a data storage apparatus, comprising the steps of:

generating a response to said computer for recognizing a virtual drive unit capable of treating said storage volume that is non-removable as a removable storage medium;

storing volume management information indicating the correspondent relationship between said virtual drive unit and said storage volume; and

specifying said storage volume to be accessed based on an access request from said computer to said virtual drive unit, and said volume management information.